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Saturday, May 11, 2013

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#### Miracle survivor pulled from Bangladesh ruins after 17 days



Bangladeshi rescuers retrieve garment worker Reshma from the rubble of a collapsed building in Savar on May 10 (see story on pg 6)

## Caya G.F. Betico Croes is now a gorgeous place for last minute Mother's Day shopping!



Aruba's Prime Minister Mike Eman and Minister of Infrastructure, Immigration and Environment, Benny Sevinger, extended a personal invitation to all those saving today to shop for Mother's Day, to do it on downtown Oranjestad's beautified and completed Caya G.F. Betico Croes, the island's traditional main shopping street.

Yesterday morning, the PM and Minister Sevinger were on hand for the unveiling of the first of eight elegant tram stations to be placed along the main street and tram route.

Continued on pg 5







#### Aruba signs MOU with Panama on Tourism collaboration

This past week during the Europe Meets the Americas Conference, Minister of Tourism, Otmar Oduber, Minister of Economic Affairs Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar, ATA CEO Ronella Tjin

Asjoe-Croes and President of the Chamber of Tourism of Panama, Annette Cardenas signed a Memorandum of Understanding to work together on the tourism front. According to Ronella Tjin

Asjoe-Croes, agreements like this MOU are steps in the right direction for the continuation of our tourism, which ensures that our tourism remains a pillar and vital part of our economy. This, she as-





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serted is in the context of both our stay-over as well as our cruise tourism.

The MOU between Aruba and the Chamber of Tourism of Panama entails a collaboration to attract more traffic from cruise ships from the Southern Caribbean to Aruba. Panama and Aruba will work towards stimulating more visits from cruise lines and a continuation of the high season, and in the low May to September season. The Aruba tourism CEO indicated that she sees Panama as an important partner in our tourism program.

According to Tjin Asjoe-

Croes, a third important area in the MOU is the intention to share knowledge, expertise and information. Panama and Aruba are willing to help each other in different areas of the tourism industry. This could entail, among others, the development of the product as well as legislation.

These types of agreements are very fitting in ATA's management and strategy for the development of the tourism of Aruba. ATA congratulated all participating organizations with a vision for the Aruba Gateway and all those who labored to realize the Europe Meets the Americas Conference.





## Europe Meets the Americas Conference sparked interest across the hemisphere



Joseph Baptiste and Daniel Lamaute with Minister Hooyboer Winklaar

The close of the inaugural Europe Meets the Americas Conference that took place Monday through Wednesday of this past week, ended with the announcement of a return engagement in 2014. The first proved highly successful, with the intention of establishing connections and commerce between Europe and Latin America, with Aruba as a cultural, financial and services hub bridging the differences between the two continents. Aruba's uniquely multicultural make up, the inhabitants' facility with languages, and their intuitive understanding of the disparity between the way Latin America and Europe does business, qualifies the island and its business people as being particularly suited to the task.

This was the premise of the conference, and it attracted 747 delegates from Central and South America, the Caribbean, Europe and even a few from the U.S., who recognized the vision and opportunities of the con-

Two of these represented the Governor of Maryland, the Honorable Martin O'Malley; Dr. Joseph E. Baptiste, a maxillary surgeon and Chairman of the International Outreach for the Governor's Comission on Caribbean Affairs, and Daniel Lamute, CEO of the Peaceful Quest consulting firm, also on the commission. It is a state agency dedicated to estab-

lishing liaisons and commerce with the region, workprincipally CARICOM, and completely unique to Maryland. Both gentlemen were born and raised in Haiti, but are long established in the U.S. state. They were very enthusiastic about the EMA, as was Governor O'Malley, and report being extremely impressed with Aruba's administration, which had the vision and ambition to establish this forum for commerce between Europe and the Americas. They kindly agreed to speak at length with THE MORNING NEWS regarding their impressions of the EMA, and the opportunities that will extend from it, not only for Latin America, but all the

TMN: How did the commission decide that attendance at EMA would be beneficial or essential?

*Dr. Baptiste:* We think it is both. For the state of Maryland, it is essential and beneficial to consider all the Caribbean countries, not only those in CARICOM. When we heard Aruba would be hosting this business symposium, we felt it was essential that the governor of Maryland look into it. Also, Maryland is relatively close to Aruba, so we are very interested in exploring any possibilities that may arise from the conference.

TMN: The principal thrust of the EMA, for the most part, has been establish-

ing connections between Europe, specifically Holland, and Latin America, with Aruba, as a hub, "straddling the cultural fence." Are you considering Maryland more directly connecting with Europe, or do you see it also deploying Aruba as a liaison?

Dr. Baptiste: Yes, of course. Aruba is very well located, as well as having a big port, like Jamaica. Maryland

felt Aruba could be a hub, not only for health, but education and transportation- the Panama Canal is preparing to handle much larger cargo vessels. Baltimore is the #1 U.S. port as concerns deepdraft shipping and super ships; we felt this is a very important area, so we could actually bring forward Baltimore's attributes and what it is going on there. We are also

home to John Hopkins Medical Institute, we could bring medical expertise to Aruba to upgrade the health care sys-

TMN: Is commerce with Latin America also an attraction?

Dr. Baptiste: Absolutely. The governor of Maryland is very progressive and has great vision for the state.

Continued on pg 4







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#### **Europe Meets the Americas Conference sparked interest across the hemisphere** Continued from pg 3

He is the first to have a commission for the Caribbean and (aside from Florida and New York) to give it all the importance it deserves regarding commerce. He recognizes the economic emergence of Latin America.

*Mr. Lamute:* I think you will find wherever there is a large concentration Caribbean diasporas, the states tend to be more responsive to residents of the state that are included in the Diaspora. That was the impetus for the Governor's initiative for the commission. We also have a Lt. Governor (Anthony Brown) whose familial roots are in Jamaica. There is a strong affinity for what the Caribbean people are able to contribute to America and to the state of Maryland. When we approached authorities in Maryland with what was taking place on Aruba, it was very well received, and we were encouraged to partici-

TMN: Do you feel the

conference is innovative?

Dr. Baptise: As far as we are aware, it os the first of its kind, and we consider it very innovative, very visionary. Not only will it be good for Aruba, but for the CARICOM nations and all the Caribbean. We were surprised to not see CARICOM countries here. We hope to see them here next year, more U.S. states, and Canada, as well. We can easily see Aruba being a gateway for these other nations.

TMN: What would the advantages be for North America?

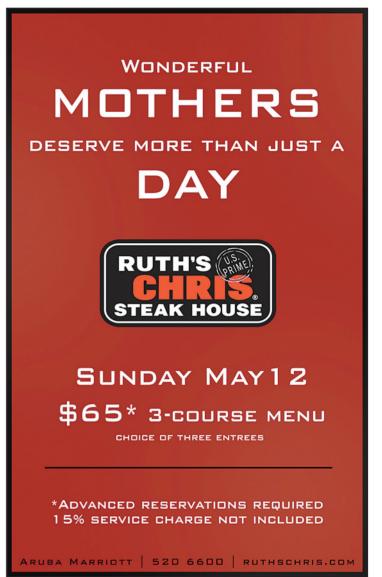
Mr. Lamute: I can see the same advantages for North America in relation to geographical location, time zones, and the fact that there is a significant Caribbean presence in the states most important to international commerce and politically; the entire northeast U.S. As such, if I am an Aruban business person, and I wish to get access to a market in the U.S.,

it is easier entry to create connections on a hub in the Caribbean. Particularly Maryland, with our advisory commission, can facilitate commerce and making those connections for communication and international trade.

TMN: Do you think most have pre-conceived notions of the Caribbean as a tourism area only, rather than emerging economies that can provide a wealth of trade opportunities outside the industry? Can the EMA dispel this?

Dr. Baptiste: Exactly. This is my first time in Aruba and I am very impressed. I can see Aruba being the Singapore of the Caribbean; you should not underestimate the potential. I think that having a great leader with a great vision is what is going to make a country great... One great advantage that I have seen here is that the government is very stable and very accessible. They are ready to do business.

By Rosalie Klein



## Starbucks offering FREE 'Refreshers' to all participants... 'Free Zumba' sessions today at the Renaissance Marketplace



Today, the Renaissance Marketplace is offering Free Zumba sessions to everyone wishing to start a healthy lifestyle or continue with an exercise program. The Zumba session will be give by Popular Zumba instructor Dwane Wever. From 9 to 10 a.m., the Renaissance Marketplace will become the 'Healthy Spot' on Aruba with Starbucks joining with this event by offering all participants their popular 'Refreshers' FREE of charge.

"Starbucks Refreshers" is the newest innovation in coffee. It's a thirst-quenching pick-me-up that packs a boost of natural energy from green coffee extract but looks and tastes nothing like coffee. Combined with real fruit juice, B and C vitamins and ginseng, it's a sparkling low-calorie boost of natural energy in three delicious flavors.

Ever one is invited today to "Step it Up" with Dwane at the Renaissance Market-place. The Renaissance Marketplace management express they expect a large crowd once again for today's session.

Photos give an impression of a previous Zumba session given by Dwane Wever.

#### Kiwanis Club of Aruba Queen's Day Event a success





The Kiwanis Club of Aruba recently organized a Queen's Day event for the benefit of underprivileged kids of Colegio Laura Paskel and the chil-



dren of Sonrisa. This event gave them the opportunity to try their hands on manual skills like kite making, handicraft and scrapbook making. The children enjoyed the event tremendously and the Club was satisfied working with the children again for such an important activity.

The attached photos show the happy children at the event.

Kiwanis is a worldwide organization of volunteers dedicated to changing the world one child and one community at a time.

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## Caya G.F. Betico Croes is now a gorgeous place for last minute Mother's Day shopping! continued from pg 1



All the plazas are nearly completed, as are the stylish sidewalks. Almost all the stores on the street have gotten into the spirit of the beautification project, with appealing new facades and fresh coats of paint. Many of the shops are also featuring substantial discounts on gift items that are ideal for Mother's Day.



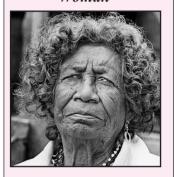
It may be taking some time to complete, but by-

standers had to admit that the refurbishment of Caya G. F. Betico Croes is quite impressive and it is worth the wait. It has long been a ritual for islanders to stroll around town during holiday shopping and weekends. All are encouraged to come and enjoy the tradition again in the lovely new environment that is downtown Oranjestad.

By Rosalie Klein

## The "San Nicolas Woman"

Dedicated to the elderly lady who asked me to describe "The San Nicolas Woman"



Often I am asked by some "San Nicolodians To describe the San Nicolas woman I tell them that I am not anthropologist, But as a person born and raised under the smoke Of Lago, for this mother's day, I will describe in my way

The San Nicolas woman

She stands at five feet eight A little over weight Her hair more curls than straight

Always in charge Her breast not so large Can't say that of her behind She is one of a kind

Her lips are full
Her teeth white and
smooth
Her spirit is tough
Her hands are rough
From working hard
and taking care
Passionate, dedicated
and sincere

Scared of a little mouse But will tackle a man as big as a house. Beautiful and strong In San Nicolas she will always belong.

by: Roland W. Peterson





### Miracle survivor pulled from Bangladesh ruins after 17 days

SAVAR, Bangladesh (AFP) -Bangladeshi rescuers pulled a woman alive from the ruins of a collapsed garment factory complex on Friday after she spent 17 days trapped in a basement under the rubble.

Hours after officials had announced that the death toll had surged past the 1,000 mark, recovery teams who had long given up any hope of finding more survivors were stunned to hear the voice of a woman calling out for help.

They then managed to pull her from out of the ruins in an operation broadcast live on television and watched over by growing crowds at the scene who were asked by clerics to pray for her.

After she was brought to the surface, she was whisked

away to a waiting ambulance but she managed a weak smile to the people gathered at the ruined Rana Plaza complex on the outskirts of the capital Dhaka.

Army Captain Ibrahimul Islam told AFP that the woman was called Reshma but did not know her family name.

The country's fire service chief told AFP that Reshma had been found in a gap between a beam and column in the wreckage of the ninestorey complex, which had caved in on April 24, and appeared to have access to water.

"She may have reserves of water or have drunk some of the water that we've pumped into the building," Ahmed Ali told AFP.

An army officer who brought Reshma out of the rubble said that she had been found standing amid the ruins.

"We first saw a pipe moving. We removed some gravel and concrete. We found her standing," Major Moazzem, who uses only one name, told Somoy TV.

"We gave her food and assured her that she would be rescued. We conducted the rescue work for 45 minutes. We brought her out by using light hammers, hand saw and drilling machines."

One of the rescuers said that the woman had cried out

for help as recovery teams sifted through the wreckage in the town of Savar on the outskirts of the capital Dhaka.

"As we were clearing rubble, we called out if anyone was alive," the unnamed rescuer said. "Then we heard her saying 'please save me, please save me'."

Another rescuer said that the woman had had access to food supplies for the first fortnight of her ordeal but had run out two days ago.

"She said she has not eaten for the last two days. She said she has eaten some dried food like biscuits," said

the rescuer.

"She said she had found a safe place and found some air and light."

Her rescue is one of the most remarkable of recent years, although it is not the longest survival after a disaster on record.

In Pakistan, on December 12, 2005 a 40-year-old woman was rescued from the ruins of her house in Kashmir, two months after a quake ravaged the region.

A 27-year-old man also spent 27 days buried under the rubble of an earthquake which flattened large parts of Haiti in 2010.

### Cameron meets Putin in new push to end Syria war

MOSCOW (AFP) - British Prime Minister David Cameron and Russian President Vladimir Putin on Friday discussed joint options for ending the crisis in Syria amid a new diplomatic push to resolve the two-year conflict.

Cameron's rare call on Putin at his summer vacation residence in the Black Sea resort of Sochi came three days after top US and Russian diplomats agreed to make a joint effort in search of a solution.

The West and Russia have been repeatedly at odds over the Syria conflict, with the United States and Europe accusing Moscow of seeking to prop up President Bashar al-Assad and supplying it with military hardware.

Amid signs of growing international cooperation on ending the conflict, Putin said the two leaders discussed possible options and joint measures for finding peace. However there was no sign of an immediate breakthrough.

"At the initiative of the prime minister, we spoke about the possible options for a positive development of the situation and about practical steps in this regards," Putin said after the talks in comments carried by Russian news agencies.

"We have a joint interest in a swift halt to the violence and the creation of the process for a peaceful solution that keeps Syria's territorial integrity and sovereignty," said Putin.

Cameron for his part said Russia, Britain and the United States should facilitate the creation of a transitional government and expressed support for a new push by Moscow and Washington to try to end the bloodshed in Syria.



### International News

# Suspect fathered child in US kidnap case: official

CLEVELAND (AFP) - Preliminary DNA results Friday confirmed that the man accused of kidnapping and raping three US women had fathered the girl rescued with them this week, Ohio's attorney general announced.

Ariel Castro, a 52-year-old unemployed bus driver, is accused of snatching the three women in separate incidents around a decade ago and holding them captive in his home.

They were freed Monday, after one of the victims, 27-year-old Amanda Berry, managed to call out to a neighbor, who kicked in the door of the suspect's home, allowing her and the six-year-old daughter she bore while held hostage to escape.

Castro is charged with kidnapping 23-year-old Gina De-Jesus and 32-year-old Michelle Knight in addition to Berry and the child, as well as with raping the women over the course of the decade in his Cleveland home.

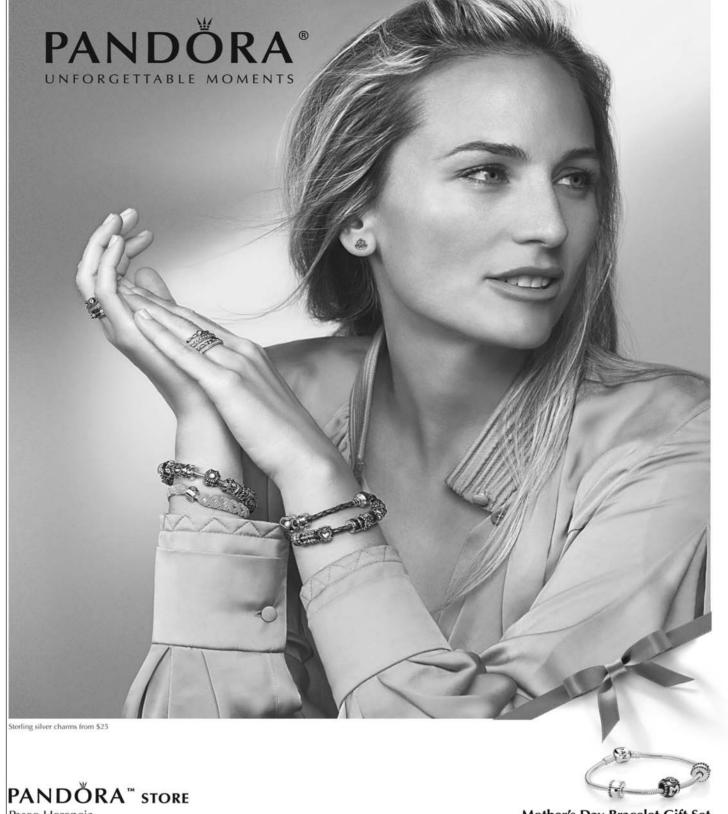
Cuyahoga County prosecutor Timothy McGinty has said he would seek to press additional charges, including ones that carry the death penalty.

Castro is alleged to have beaten at least one of the women to terminate pregnancies that began while they were locked in his home, which McGinty called "a torture chamber and private prison."

The suspect was ordered held Thursday on \$8 million bail.

After the hearing, public defender Kathleen DeMetz told reporters she believed Castro would be placed on suicide watch in jail.





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### Britain withdraws some Libya embassy staff amid unrest

LONDON (AFP) - Britain is temporarily pulling out some staff from its embassy in the Libyan capital Tripoli due to security concerns over recent political unrest, the Foreign Office said on Friday.

Tensions have risen in Libya since ex-rebels besieged two ministries at the end of last month in a row over a law that would ban officials who served under slain dictator Moamer Kadhafi from holding "Given the security implications of the ongoing political uncertainty, the British embassy is temporarily withdrawing a small number of staff, mainly those who work in support of government ministries which have been affected by recent developments," a spokesman said.

Gunmen surrounded the Libyan foreign ministry on April 28 and the justice ministry two days later to demand the passing of a law excluding collaborators of Kadhafi from office.

There has also been violence in Libya's second city Benghazi, the cradle of the 2011 uprising that toppled Kadhafi, with bomb attacks on Friday damaging two police stations although there were no casualties

Authorities blame radical Islamists for the violence in Benghazi, including a deadly attack in September against the US consulate in the city that

killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

Britain, France and the United States issued a joint statement on Wednesday calling on "all Libyans to refrain from armed protest and violence during this difficult time in the democratic transition".

Britain and France led the creation of a NATO no-fly zone in Libya in 2011 when the rebellion against Kadhafi began





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## Save the Children teams up with pharma giant GSK in Africa



LONDON (AFP) - International development charity Save the Children is linking up with British pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmithKline in what both sides say is a unique collaboration to save children's lives in Africa.

GSK will provide £15 million (18 million euros, \$23 million) over five years to train healthcare workers and fund





Save the Children community projects in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Kenya.

The charity will take a seat on a new GSK board overseeing its paediatric research and development "to accelerate progress on innovative life-saving interventions for underfives" and widen access in the developing world, they said in a joint statement.

Save the Children admitted the tie-up would be controversial given criticism -- that it once voiced -- that the pharmaceutical giant limits access to healthcare in developing countries by setting the prices of its drugs too high.

"In the past Save the Children may not have embarked on a collaboration with a pharmaceutical company like GSK," admitted Justin Forsyth, chief executive of the charity's British branch.

Under the partnership, GSK

will look into reformulating the antiseptic chlorhexidine, currently found in mouthwash, into a product that could be used to cleanse the umbilical cord stump on newborn babies.

Studies from South Asia suggest this could prevent up to one sixth of newborn deaths in high-risk areas, it said.

The pharmaceutical company will also step up the distribution of an antibiotic in powder form that could treat childhood pneumonia, which currently kills 1.4 million under-fives globally.

Save the Children's on-theground expertise will be vital in deciding how such products can be distributed, from the language on the packaging to the weather and conditions in the target areas, the company said.

The deal raises questions of whether Save the Children will be obliged to promote GSK products, but Simon Wright, the charity's head of child survival in London, insisted the deal was a "fantastic opportunity" to influence where the pharma giant spends its money.

He said GSK had "changed a lot over the last few years" in promoting access to medicines, and said charities must recognise that the private sector "has to be part of the solution".

The £15 million includes £1 million to be raised by GSK employees, and will see £9 mil-

lion given to projects in DR Congo and £4 million for projects in Kenya.

Rohit Malpani, director of policy for Medecins Sans Frontieres, said: "The real understanding of how effective this partnership is, is whether or not companies like GSK put access to medicines at the heart of their business models."

Malpani said that although drugs companies had improved their pricing practices over the past decade, it was a small step from a very low base.

"People are still paying too high prices, innovation has not truly changed to benefit lowincome countries," he told AFP.

#### Health

#### WHO says Cambodia can end HIV infections by 2020

PHNOM PENH (AFP) - Cambodia is on track to become one of the few countries in the world to successfully reverse its HIV epidemic and may eliminate new infections by 2020, the World Health Organization said Friday.

The Southeast Asian nation has reduced its HIV prevalence rate from a 1998 peak of 1.7 percent among people aged 15-49 to 0.7 percent in 2012 across the whole population, the WHO said in a joint statement with the Cambodian health ministry.

Nearly 75,000 Cambodians are living with HIV, according to local health authorities.

But new infections have dropped from around 15,500 annually in the early 1990s to about 2,100 in 2009 and 1,000 in 2011, the statement said.

The decline was attributed largely to a government prevention drive focusing on sex workers, HIV positive mothers and improved access to antiretroviral drugs for people living with the infection, it added.

But the review cautioned the 2020 target could be missed without continued investment in HIV prevention and care for the sick.

A 2010 study, compiled with assistance from UNAIDS and US-based Results for Development Institute, warned the country's widely hailed efforts in tackling HIV/AIDS were under threat with foreign donors likely to cut funding over the next two decades.

External partners fund 90 percent of the country's AIDS programme, which costs just over \$50 million a year.



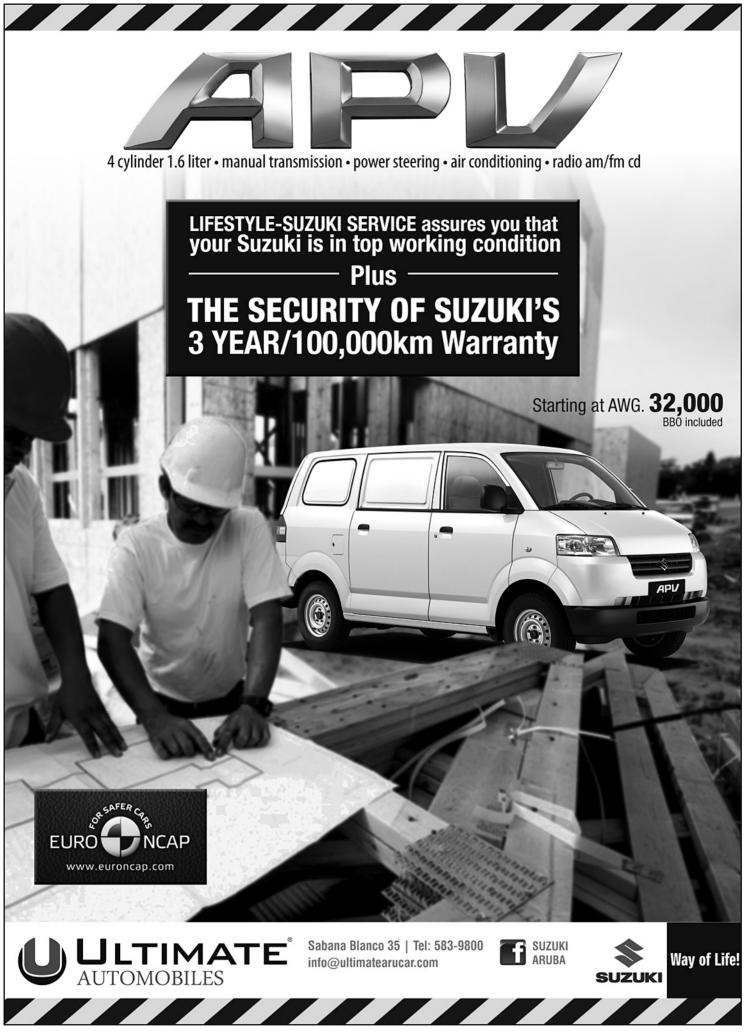
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#### YouTube launches paid channels, in TV challenge

NEW YORK (AFP) - YouTube this week unveiled its first paid subscription channels as the Google-owned video service made a long-anticipated move to challenge streaming services like Netflix.

The move puts Google into direct competition with services such as Netflix, Hulu, and Amazon, which have been luring viewers away from cable and

broadcast TV.

The statement said this is part of an effort begun in 2007 "that enables content creators to earn revenue for their creativity."

YouTube released a list of some 50 channels which will be part of the program starting Thursday. Subscription rates go as high as \$7.99 per month.

"Every channel has a 14-day free trial, and many offer dis-

counted yearly rates," a YouTube blog post said.

"This is just the beginning. We'll be rolling paid channels out more broadly in the coming weeks as a self-service feature for qualifying partners. And as new channels appear, we'll be making sure you can discover them, just as we've been helping you find and subscribe to all the channels you love across YouTube."

Subscribers will be able to access the channels from a computer, phone, tablet or TV, "and soon you'll be able to subscribe to them from more devices," the statement said."

Google bought YouTube in 2006 for \$1.65 billion. The service is believed to generate a small amount of revenue from advertising, but the content has been free up to now.

#### Sci-Tech

## Small ammonia leak outside space station: *NASA*

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The International Space Station suffered a small leak of ammonia used to cool its power system on Thursday, but there was no danger to the crew, NASA said.

The US space agency said crew had spotted small white flakes floating away from an area outside the craft before reporting the incident to Mission Control in Houston.

NASA said in a bulletin on its website that while the rate of ammonia leaking from the station's truss structure had increased, the "station continues to operate normally otherwise and the crew is in no danger."

"Ammonia is used to cool the station's power channels that provide electricity to station systems," NASA said, revealing that the leak was coming from the same general area it did in a previous episode last year.

"This ammonia loop is the same one that spacewalkers attempted to troubleshoot a leak on during a spacewalk on Nov. 1, 2012," the statement said.

"It is not yet known whether this increased ammonia flow is from the same leak, which at the time, was not visible."

The ISS is currently crewed by six staff, under the command of Canadian Chris Hadfield.



#### **PICKLES**



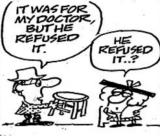






#### **MOMMA**

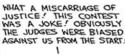






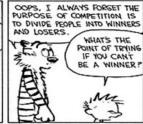
#### CALVIN and HOBBES













59.

53. Husband's

spouse

58. Loosen, as

-steven

opponent

measures

(abbr.)

laces

60. Dem.'s

61. Liquid

57. Mess up

#### FREE Coverage on our website: www.themorningnewsaruba.con

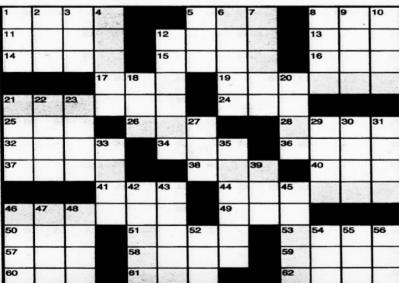
#### **ACROSS**

- 1. Vamp Theda 5. Speedy jet
- (abbr.) 8. What a nurse gives (abbr.)
- 11. Dentist's "\_
- wide!" 12. One of Alcott's
- "Little
- Women"
- 13. "\_\_\_ Haw"
- 14. 11th president
- 15. Zhivago's love 16. Conclusion
- 17. Change the facts
- 19. Like a messy

- bed 21. Consent
- 24. Boxing win (abbr.)
- 25. Scarer's shout 26. It follows Mar.
- 28. Lecherous look
- 32. Anjou cousin 34. Cul-de-
- 36. Actor Sheehan
- 37. Choir voice
- 38. Small bit 40. Chile's neighbor
- (abbr.) 41. Ship's record
- 44. Certain firearms
- 46. Canada's capital
- 50. Travel term 51. Pecans, e.g.
- 49. One, in French
- 62. Lipstick shades

#### **DOWN**

- 1. Jazz style
- 2. Soldier's address
- (abbr.) 3. Sister or
- cousin (abbr.) 4. Leg joint
- 5. Briny deep 6. Walk



#### pompously 7. Show

- appreciation "Take
- Train" (2 wds.)
- 9. Give, but expect back
- 10. Yield territory
- 12. Censors' sounds
- Director Lupino
- 20. Emotional tone 21. Swedish pop
- group
- 22. Hip
- 23. Fee
- 27. Lab rodent
- 29. Aim in life
- 30. Fisherman's need
- 31. What cooks beat
- 33. Coke, e.g. 35. Famed
- operatic tenor 39. Loud uproar
- 42. Confess (2 wds.)
- 43. Haggard 45. Smaller in
- number 46. Not under
- Whitewall, e.g 48. Drop cloth, for
- short 52. Grid coups (abbr.)
- \_ Lost You" 55. Provided
- dinner 56. Some
  - Scrabble tiles

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## Sudoku

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Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9 A number is Never repeated in a row or column. In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



#### **FINANCE**

## US budget gap narrows as April posts surplus

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States's yawning annual budget deficit narrowed in April as government coffers brimmed with the largest monthly surplus in five years, official data released Friday showed.

The federal budget had a surplus of \$112.9 billion for the month of April, as tax payments surged ahead the mid-month due date for annual income tax filings for 2012, according to Treasury Department numbers.

The surplus was almost double the \$59.1 billion surplus registered in April 2012.

Over the first seven months of the fiscal year, the US budget deficit was \$487.6 billion, 32 percent smaller than the October-April 2012 period.

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Revenues leaped 28 percent in April from a year ago, to \$406.7 billion, helped in part by January 1 increases in payroll and other taxes.

Expenditures fell a hefty 13 percent to \$293.8 billion in the second month of severe "sequester" spending cuts, aimed at slashing \$85 billion through September.

### China, Argentina sign agriculture deal during VP visit

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - Argentina and China signed an agreement on agricultural cooperation Friday in Buenos Aires, following a meeting between the Argentine president and Chinese vice president.

President Cristina Kirchner and Vice President Li Yuanchao met for two hours in the Casa Rosada presidential complex, along with ministers and officials from both countries.

Li's visit is the first high-level meeting between the two countries since Xi Jinping became China's president in March for a 10-year term.

China's ambassador to Buenos Aires confirmed to reporters the agreement signed Friday was intended to promote the exchange of agricultural products.

The two leaders also agreed to an extradition treaty between the two countries, the diplomat added.

The overall volume of bilateral trade between China and Argentina totaled \$14.5 billion in 2012, according to the Chinese embassy.

## Oil prices fall after flat OPEC demand outlook

NEW YORK (AFP) - Crude oil prices slipped Friday on renewed global demand worries after OPEC left its 2013 estimate unchanged and reported increased output in April.

New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate (WTI) for June delivery, closed at \$96.04 a barrel, down 35 cents from Thursday.

In London trade, Brent North Sea crude for June settled 56 cents lower at \$103.91 a barrel.

The WTI futures contract sank more than \$3 before pulling back up in late-session trade.

Robert Yawger of Mizuho Securities USA said that traders appeared to realize the strong losses earlier in the day were "overdone" and did not want to be left short ahead of the weekend.

Oil prices also were under pressure after the oil cartel OPEC "did not raise their global demand forecast and continue to warn about the downside risks in the economy," said John Kilduff of Again Capital.

The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, in its April report, forecast total average oil demand of 89.7 million barrels per day, up 0.8 million bpd from 2012, unchanged from its March pro-



jection

"A fragile recovery in the global economy has been visible since the beginning of the year, but momentum has started slowing again and growth risks are skewed to the downside," said the cartel, which accounts for around 35 percent of global crude output.

It said that for China, the main source of global growth, recent data indicated that oil demand had dropped significantly between January and March, with March showing the most sluggish rate in seven months.

This likely reflected "some weakness" in Chinese economic activity, with data for first-quarter economic growth coming in below consensus at 7.7 percent, OPEC noted.

The report also estimated that in April total OPEC daily crude production rose 0.9 percent from March.



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Michelangelo and trio



Distinguished guests at Ruth's Chris

 On Monday May 6, Ruth's Chris Aruba celebrated its 5th anniversary with a sold out "Rat Pack tribute" dinner show for their distinguished guests.

As guests entered the red carpet, they were welcomed by video footage of the original Rat Pack trio. After enjoying a special 4-course set plated dinner, guests were entertained with funky jazz tunes by live local band and singer Michelangelo recreating the music of Rat Pack trio Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis. The audience sang loudly along with favorite's New York, New York, That's Amore, My Way and Mr Bojangle. The Ruth's Chris team handed out complimentary glasses of champagne to toast to the Ruth's Chris Steak House 5th anniversary.

Ruth's Chris manager Wiebe de Roos was pleased to

see the success of the event and the responses of guests. "We wanted to do something different, bringing back the feeling of the 60s and

honoring the first Ruth's Chris in New Orleans," said de Roos.

A special thank you goes out to the Ruth's Chris team, who have been working there



**Ruth's Chris management Mariette** Wentink popping the champagne

since the opening five years ago and to the Arion Wine Company, Elite productions and Michelangelo and the trio band for making it a great event. Pabien Ruth's Chris Steak House Aruba.

**Mothers** hold their children's hands for a while, but their hearts forever

## Nigeria police free 17 girls in 'baby-factory' raid



LAGOS (AFP) - Nigerian police have found 17 pregnant teenage girls in a raid on a house, and were searching Friday for a woman suspected of planning to sell their babies, a spokeswoman said.

Joy Elomoko of the southeastern Imo state police said all the girls were between 14 and 17 years old and that 11 small children were also found in the house.

Some locals believed the building called the Ahamefula Motherless Babies Home served as an orphanage and shelter for expecting mothers.

"Acting on a tip-off, a special unit of the Imo State police command raided the illegal home in Umuaka on Wednesday and rescued 17 girls, aged between 14 and 17, at different stages of pregnancies," Elomoko told AFP.

"The girls claimed they were fed once a day and were not allowed to leave the home," she added.

The girls told police that their babies were to be sold to "willing buyers," Elomoko said.

It was not clear if the girls were brought to the home by

The girls further told police that they had been impregnated by a 23-year-old man who is currently in custody, along with the security guard who worked at the compound.

"The proprietress of the home is at large, but we have launched a man-hunt for her," Elomoko said.

In a human trafficking report released last month, the European Union identified Nigeria as the African country where the scourge is most common.

The report said the selling of children was widespread and Nigerian police have previously uncovered so-called baby factories.

In May of 2011 in southeastern Abia state, police freed 32 pregnant girls who said they had been offered to sell their babies for between 25,000 and 30,000 naira (191 dollars), depending on the sex of the baby.

Another 17 pregnant girls were discovered in southern Anambra state in October 2011 under similar circumstances.

The United Nations cultural agency UNESCO has previously identified human trafficking as the third most common crime in Nigeria, behind fraud and drug trafficking.



#### Eat like a local at The Queen's restaurant at Palm Beach Plaza



Keshi Yena with plaintains, vegetables and pica

-- An elegant décor with a breezy terrace overlooking Palm Beach welcomes guests to Varella Innocencia's very popular restaurant showcasing authentic local cuisine:

#### The Queen's.

They may have moved from Oranjestad to hipper new digs in Palm Beach Plaza, but the food and prices are strictly native, which is what first won this charming eatery their loyal clientele. Varella's mom, Luisa, is still in the kitchen, conjuring up the delicious dishes that have been in her family for generations, acknowledged on the menu with

items such as "Carni Stoba di Mamachi"-"Grandma's Beef Stew," and their Arawak Steak, along with local delicacies like Keshi Yena -"Full Cheese." This is a tasty, filling stew of chicken, with other ingredients that are handy that day, all incased in a thick skin of melted Gouda. It was very satisfying and particularly memorable paired with The Queen's garlic bread and very special Pica, a mix of chopped onions and the famous local hot pepper, Madame Janette. Not overly spicy, it lends that perfect bit of tang to this deliciously picturesque meal.



Varella, Luisa and the next generation of chef

One of the distinctions of unique indigenous ingredients such as in Wild Cucumber Stew and a particular light fish chowder accompanied by the local specialties pan bati (corn meal pancake) and funchi (the local version of polenta.)

Seafood main courses of Catch of the Day Aruban Style to shrimp and a mixed seafood platter with shrimp, fish, squid, scallops and mussels. Meat dishes such as BBQ Chicken and Ribs or Grilled Tenderloin, each including a choice of 2 side dishes; all quite yummy and bargain-priced to boot!

The Queen's is located on Aruban cuisine is incorporating the second level of Palm Beach Plaza, tucked into a cozy corner at the front of the mall. If you have a mind to try the real deal in Aruban food, without a doubt, this is the way to truly eat like a local. They are open from 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM, daily, offering indoor and outdoor dining.

> **Telf. 5860606 and email:** saus.arubancuisine@live.com from an extensive menu they also have daily specials made from whatever is in season and Mama Luisa is in the mood to prepare, so don't forget to ask about what isn't on the menu!



### **Lunch Buffet**Saturday - Sunday 12:00 - 3 p.m.

**Dinner** Monday - Sunday 6:00 - 11:00 p.m

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## Athletics: Rudisha, Gatlin shine at Diamond League opener



DOHA (AFP) - Kenya's world and Olympic 800m champion David Rudisha was one of 11 athletes to register season-best performances as the Diamond League opened in Doha on Friday.

Rudisha won in 1min 43.87sec with Ethiopia's Mohammed Aman, the only man to have beaten the Kenyan in the last three years, taking second in 1:44.21.

The Kenyan broke his own world record at the London Olympics last summer with a time of 1:40.91.

"It's a season-best, but I can do better in the coming weeks," said Rudisha.

In the men's 100m, America's 2004 Olympic champion Justin Gatlin won in Doha for the second successive year.

The 31-year-old, whose career was interrupted by a four-year doping ban, timed 9.97sec to beat fellow American Michael Rodgers with Jamaica's Nesta Collins in third, both men 0.02sec behind.

However, the 100m field was missing Olympic champion and world record holder Usain Bolt as well as world champion Yohan Blake.

Elsewhere, America's Dawn Harper-Nelson, the 2008 Olympic 100m hurdles gold medallist and silver medallist in London last year, improved her season's best to 12.60sec.

Harper-Nelson, who had run 12.62sec in Jamaica last weekend, finished ahead of compatriots Kellie Wells (12.73) and Queen Harrison (12.74).

Ethiopia's Hagos Grhhiwet, who has only just turned 19, celebrated his birthday in style by winning the 3,000m.

The world cross-country champion won in a time of 7min 30.36sec to hammer home his status as the natural heir to four-time Olympic champion Kenenisa Bekele.

Allyson Felix, who collected triple gold -- 200m, 4x100m and 4x400m -- in London, was defeated in the 200m by world champion Amantle Montsho of Botswana.

Other Olympic champions taking victories on Friday were Croatia's Sandra Perkovic in the discus, thanks to a throw of 68.23m and America's Christian Taylor with a 17.25m leap in the triple jump.

Former basketball player Brittney Reese, the Olympic gold medallist in the long jump, won with 7.25m.

Reese, also the world champion, finished ahead of Nigeria's Blessing Okagbare (7.14m) and America's Janay DeLoach (7.08m).

#### **SPORTS**

# Tennis: Nadal, Serena, Sharapova through, Murray out

MADRID (AFP) - Rafael Nadal overcame a stiff test from compatriot David Ferrer to reach the Madrid Masters semi-finals Friday, but there was no such luck for Andy Murray who was beaten 7-6 (7/3), 6-4 by Tomas Berdych.

Defeats for Murray and Ferrer mean that the world's top four have all been eliminated following earlier exits for Novak Djokovic and Roger Federer.

World number five Nadal, who is now the favourite for a third title in the Spanish capital, had to come from a set and a break down to win 4-6, 7-6 (7/3), 6-0 over world number four Ferrer.

And the 11-time Grand Slam champion admitted that recovering a break when Ferrer led 4-2 in the second set was the key moment.

Despite being seeded above Nadal, due to the seven-time French Open winner's sevenmonth injury lay-off, Ferrer was still left nursing a record of just four wins in their 22 meetings.

Victory took the 2005 and 2010 Madrid champion's record to 29-2 since he returned to action in early February, and the Spaniard can reach his seventh consecutive final when he faces wildcard Pablo Andujar in another all Spanish affair in the semi-finals.

World number 113 Andujar reached a first Masters semifinal with a 6-3, 7-5 win over Roger Federer's conqueror in the last round, Kei Nishikori.

In the women's event, Williams and Sharapova stayed on course for a battle for the world number one slot in the final as they progressed into the last four with wins over Anabel Medina Garrigues and Kaia Kanepi respectively.

However, current number one Williams was given a huge scare by 30-year-old wildcard Garrigues before battling through 6-3, 0-6, 7-5.

Ivanovic sealed her place in the last four with a 6-3, 6-1 win over sixth seed Angelique Kerber, whilst seventh seed Errani ended Ekaterina Makarova's fine tournament, 6-4, 6-3.



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### Football: Heynckes set to bid farewell to Bundesliga



BERLIN (AFP) - Jupp Heynckes on Friday admitted that he is unlikely to coach in the Bundesliga again once he departs champions Bayern Munich at the end of the campaign.

The 68-year-old, who will hand over the Bayern hotseat to Pep Guardiola in the summer, was speaking ahead of Saturday's home match against Bavarian neighbours Augsburg, at the end of which the champions will receive the Bundesliga trophy.

"It looks like goodbye," said Heynckes, who celebrated his 68th birthday on Thursday and appeared to open the door to retiring from football management altogether.

"Once you have coached a club like Bayern Munich, who break all records, there is not much interest in coaching another team in the Bundesliga," added Heynckes, whose side have lost just one league game all season and have already set a new record for most points in one campaign in Germany's top flight.

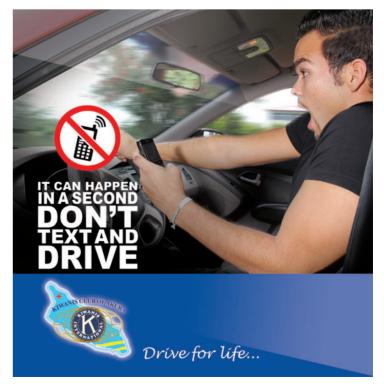
Bayern will celebrate winning their 22nd Bundesliga title, and 23rd national championship overall, on Saturday before turning their attentions to the Champions League final against Borussia Dortmund at Wembley on May 25.

They will then have a German Cup final against Stuttgart to prepare for on June 1 as the Bavarians aim to win an unprecedented treble.

Heynckes has already dismissed suggestions that he might return to former club Schalke, where he previously coached in 2003-04, and Real Madrid, whom he led to Champions League glory in 1998.

Madrid are expected to be on the lookout for a successor to Jose Mourinho this summer.

Heynckes' final league game at the helm will be away to Borussia Moenchengladbach, where he enjoyed a glittering career as a player and later began his coaching career.





## NBA: Thompson shines as Warriors sink Spurs

SAN ANTONIO (AFP) - Klay Thompson drained eight-ofnine from beyond the arc and Stephen Curry scored 22 points as the Golden State Warriors beat San Antonio 100-91 in game two of their second round playoff series.

Thompson, who finished just one three pointer shy of the NBA playoff record, had 34 points and 14 rebounds for the Warriors on Wednesday at AT&T Center arena.

Golden State held on for the victory to even the series 1-1 after the Spurs cut into their 20-point third quarter lead by storming back in the fourth.

Thompson wasn't just an offensive force as he also did a superb job of shutting down Spurs star Tony Parker.

The Warriors had lost 30 consecutive games in San Antonio dating back to February 1997, including game one's

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double-overtime thriller, which saw the Spurs come back from 16 points down over the final four minutes of the fourth.

On Wednesday, San Antonio pulled within six down the stretch, but missed six consecutive shots to fall short.

Tim Duncan scored a teamhigh 23 points, while Parker added 20 in the loss.

Curry, who made the cover of this week's Sports Illustrated magazine, was also hitting his shots. Heading into Wednesday's game, Curry led the NBA playoffs in assists with an average of 9.6 per game and was third best in points at 27.1 per game behind only Carmelo Anthony and Kevin Durant.

Thompson and Curry carried the Warriors on their backs in the first half. He and Curry combined for 23 points in the

first quarter, matching the Spurs' total en route to a 28-23 Warrior lead.

He nailed two three pointers to close the first half and give Golden State a 62-43 lead going into the third. His three-point barrage came as a bit of surprise considering Thompson had missed 11 consecutive threes heading into game two.

Manu Ginobili was the double overtime hero in game one for the Spurs but he finished with just 12 points and went one-of-six from beyond the arc in Wednesday's loss.

The Spurs had their moments. Kawhi Leonard's dunk sparked a 14-2 run that ended with three-pointers from Danny Green and Gary Neal, which cut the Warriors' lead to seven points, 77-70 in the third.



## Yachting: Sailor's death fuels doubts of AC721



SAN FRANCISCO (AFP) - The death of British sailor Andrew Simpson when Artemis Racing's AC72 capsized on Thursday highlighted concerns that the spectacular new America's Cup catamarans are just too fast.

Simpson died on Thursday when he was trapped under part of the boat after it capsized and broke up during training in San Francisco Bay.

The Swedish team's yacht was the second AC72 to capsize in San Francisco Bay, after Cup defender Oracle flipped end-over-end last October.

Both incidents occurred when the yachts were bearing away -- changing direction as at a race course mark.

French yachtsman Loick Peyron, a member of the Artemis team, said in January that the immense power supplied by the AC72's 130-foot (39.6-meter) rigid wing sail made such maneuvers especially difficult.

The double-hulled yachts are capable of top speeds of more than 40 knots, and can use hydrofoils to lift the hulls and reduce drag.

Each team designs and builds its own version in accordance with the class parameters announced in 2010 to great fanfare.

In seeking to revitalize the Cup, organizers looked beyond sailing, talking to leaders of NBA basketball, Formula One

and NASCAR stock car racing to come up with a formula that would invigorate a competition that dates back to 1851 and is most associated with monohull yachts that seem stately by comparison.

After Oracle's capsize, Artemis chief executive Paul Cayard told Wired magazine it would be a "miracle" if the same didn't happen to another boat.

Max Sirena, skipper of Italian America's Cup challenger Luna Rossa, told the New York Times on Thursday that the boats are "dangerous".

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